

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (previously cancelled)

5.(currently amended) A golf tee for supporting a golf ball on a ground surface, the golf tee comprising:

a base defining an operatively upper face and an opposed operatively lower face;  
a pointed shaft extending from the lower face, which is arranged to be pushed into the ground surface; and a plurality of bristles which extend from the upper face of the base in a vertical orientation relative to the base, the bristles being arranged to define an annular support surface having an outside radius of 7.5 mm and an inside radius of 5mm for supporting the golf ball, wherein the bristles have a height of 22mm to 27mm and remain in a vertical orientation when supporting the golf ball.

6. (cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 5, wherein the annular support surface has an outside radius of 7.5mm when supporting the golf ball.

7. (cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 6, wherein the annular support surface has an inside radius of 5mm when supporting the golf ball.

8.(currently amended) The golf tee according to claim ~~7~~5, wherein the bristles are arranged in clusters with from 10 to 25 bristles per cluster.

9.(previously presented)The golf tee according to claim 8, wherein the bristles are nylon bristles and have a thickness of 0.4mm.

10.(currently amended) The golf tee according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.

11.(currently amended) The golf tee according to claim ~~2~~ 8, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.

12.(currently amended) The golf tee according to claim ~~3~~ 9, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.

- 13.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 4, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.
- 14.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 5, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.
- 15.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 6, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.
- 16.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 7, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.
- 17.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 8, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.
- 18.(cancelled) The golf tee according to claim 9, wherein the upper face of the base is circular in shape and has a width of 18mm.